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(202) 776-1550
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

July 11, 1996

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Mr. William Caton
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: Ex Parte Communication in Docket 96-98

Dear Mr. Caton:

Enclosed are copies of letters sent by Mr. Bernard J. Ebberts, President of WorldCom, Inc., to Chairman Hundt, Commissioner Quello, Commissioner Chong, Commissioner Ness and Common Carrier Bureau Chief Keeney. The substance of each letter is identical.

Sincerely,



Richard L. Fruchterman, III
Director of Government Affairs

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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515 East Amite Street
Jackson, MS 39201-2702
(601) 360-8602

Bernard J. Ebbers
President and CEO

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
Room 844, Stop Code 0105
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Commissioner Chong:

Last month, I spent two days in meetings at the FCC because the pending interconnection proceeding is so important to WorldCom and to the future of telecommunications competition. I appreciated the opportunity to meet with you while I was in town.

The interconnection proceeding will mean the difference between success or failure in reaching the goals set out by the Telecommunications Act of 1996. WorldCom already owns and operates one of the four nationwide telecommunications networks. We are committed to continuing our investment in the nation's telecommunications infrastructure. Over this year and next, WorldCom is spending an additional \$1.6 billion to expand and upgrade its network.

If given the opportunity, WorldCom will begin to invest in local facilities as well. We must first have a local customer base to justify the significant expenditures that local facilities construction will require. Resale of the incumbent LECs' retail services alone will not allow us sufficient product differentiation to attract local customers from the incumbents. The statute requires that new entrants be free to purchase any combination of network elements, just as other carriers (including major ILECs) buy elements of the WorldCom network today. The customer base needed for local investment can be won only if the FCC gives full force and effect to the plain language of Section 251(c)(3) of the Act.

Thank you again for your time. If there is anything more that I can do to assist your deliberations, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bernard J. Ebbers".

Bernard J. Ebbers
President

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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515 East Amite Street
Jackson, MS 39201-2702
(601) 360-8600

Bernard J. Ebberts
President and CEO

Ms. Regina Keeney
Chief, Common Carrier Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
Room 500, Stop Code 1600
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Ms. Keeney:

Last month, I spent two days in meetings at the FCC because the pending interconnection proceeding is so important to WorldCom and to the future of telecommunications competition. I appreciated the opportunity to meet with you while I was in town.

The interconnection proceeding will mean the difference between success or failure in reaching the goals set out by the Telecommunications Act of 1996. WorldCom already owns and operates one of the four nationwide telecommunications networks. We are committed to continuing our investment in the nation's telecommunications infrastructure. Over this year and next, WorldCom is spending an additional \$1.6 billion to expand and upgrade its network.

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Bernard J. Ebberts
President



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515 East Amite Street
Jackson, MS 39201-2702
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Bernard J. Ebberts
President and CEO

The Honorable James Quello
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
Room 802, Stop Code 0106
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Commissioner Quello:

Last month, I spent two days in meetings at the FCC because the pending interconnection proceeding is so important to WorldCom and to the future of telecommunications competition. I am sorry that your schedule did not give us a chance to visit while I was in town.

The interconnection proceeding will mean the difference between success or failure in reaching the goals set out by the Telecommunications Act of 1996. WorldCom already owns and operates one of the four nationwide telecommunications networks. We are committed to continuing our investment in the nation's telecommunications infrastructure. Over this year and next, WorldCom is spending an additional \$1.6 billion to expand and upgrade its network.

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I look forward to seeing you during my next visit to Washington.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Bernard J. Ebberts".

Bernard J. Ebberts
President



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The Honorable Reed Hundt
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
Room 814, Stop Code 0101
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt:

Last month, I spent two days in meetings at the FCC because the pending interconnection proceeding is so important to WorldCom and to the future of telecommunications competition. I am sorry that your schedule did not give us a chance to visit while I was in town.

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I look forward to seeing you during my next visit to Washington.

Sincerely,

Bernard J. Ebbers
President

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Jackson, MS 39201-2702
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Bernard J. Ebbers
President and CEO

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July 10, 1996

The Honorable Susan Ness
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
Room 832, Stop Code 0104
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Commissioner Ness:

Last month, I spent two days in meetings at the FCC because the pending interconnection proceeding is so important to WorldCom and to the future of telecommunications competition. I am sorry that your schedule did not give us a chance to visit while I was in town.

The interconnection proceeding will mean the difference between success or failure in reaching the goals set out by the Telecommunications Act of 1996. WorldCom already owns and operates one of the four nationwide telecommunications networks. We are committed to continuing our investment in the nation's telecommunications infrastructure. Over this year and next, WorldCom is spending an additional \$1.6 billion to expand and upgrade its network.

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Sincerely,

Bernard J. Ebbers
President

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Bernard J. Ebbers
President and CEO

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